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1587-62

25X1A

6 July 1962

NRO DECLASSIFICATION/RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS ON FILE

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Comptroller

SUBJECT: Cost of One Satellite Launch

1. The following figures indicate the approximate cost of one CORONA satellite reconnaissance mission. This is based on the FY 63 current estimate and is for a single additional mission as part of the overall CORONA program. Obviously, the price of a prototype or new development would be considerably higher.

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Payload (photo equipment)
Lockheed (Mod. of nosecone plus
recovery equipment)
General Electric (nosecone)
Agena D (second stage booster)
Thor (first stage)
Launch Series (preparation of
launching area)
Engineering (technical control of
launching)

Subtotal

Film Processing

Based on 15 missions with total
cost of [REDACTED] (rounded)

Cost of Recovery: Air Force responsibility

Cost of Photo Interpretation: NPIC responsibility

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2. The above figures do not include the cost of recovery or photo interpretation, since these are not the responsibility of the DD/R. The recovery operation cost may possibly be obtained from the National Reconnaissance Office, and the cost of photo interpretation may be obtained from the Deputy Director (Intelligence).

SIGNED

EDWARD B. GILLER
Assistant Deputy Director
(Research)

DDR/EBGiller:mh

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